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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 09/972,804      | 10/09/2001  | Jyh-Yuan Deng        | SUND 238            | 6760             |

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EXAMINER

VIG, NARESH

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3629

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

|                              |                                      |                                       |  |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Office Action Summary</b> | <b>Application No.</b><br>09/972,804 | <b>Applicant(s)</b><br>DENG, JYH-YUAN |  |
|                              | <b>Examiner</b><br>Naresh Vig        | <b>Art Unit</b><br>3629               |  |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 October 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-7 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \* c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                                   | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)             |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Election/Restrictions***

Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 1 – 3, drawn to a method for ordering and downloading digital content with unique identity recognition through a network, for a user to order a digital content product from a web store and download the digital content product from a digital right management (DRM), wherein the user is to download the digital content product by using a reader program which is to be installed by the user; connecting to the web store by using a web browser; starting a transaction; sending an order message for the digital content product from the web store to the DRM server; sending a download message from the DRM server to the web store; informing the user that the digital content product is ready to be downloaded by sending a notification message from the web store to the user; browser invokes the reader program; reader program connects to the DRM server; DRM server performs UID recognition for the reader program; reader program downloads the digital content product from the DRM server; and informing the web store of completion of the transaction when the reader program finishes downloading, classified in class 705, subclass 26.

- II. Claims 4 – 6, drawn to method for ordering and downloading digital content with unique identity recognition through a network, for a user to order a digital content product from a web store and download the digital content product from a digital right management (DRM), wherein the user is to download and install the reader program, and assigning a unique identity (UID) to the reader program by the DRM server; connecting to the web store by using a web browser; starting a transaction; sending an order message for the digital content product from the web store to the DRM server; sending a download message from the DRM server to the web store; informing the user that the digital content product is ready to be downloaded by sending a notification message from the web store to the user; reader program and connecting to the DRM server; DRM server performs UID recognition for the reader program; reader program downloads the digital content product from the DRM server; and informing the web store of completion of the transaction when the reader program finishes downloading, classified in class 705, subclass 26.
- III. Claim 7, drawn to system for ordering and downloading digital content with unique identity recognition through a network, comprising: a user terminal; a web store for providing a digital content product for purchase at the user terminal; and a digital right management (DRM) server capable of connecting to the web store, for providing a unique identity (UID) for the

user terminal to apply for, and the digital content product for the user terminal to download; wherein the DRM server performs UID recognition for the user terminal so as to allow the user terminal to download the digital content product from the DRM server; and reader server is operative to browse web store, place order from web store, download product from DRM server, use digital content, classified in class 709, subclass 213.

The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I and II & III are related as combination and subcombination.

Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because Invention I requires web server to invoke reader program, whereas, Invention II is performed using the reader program.

Inventions II and I & III are related as combination and subcombination.

Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed

does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because Invention II is performed using the reader program, downloads the product from DRM server, whereas Invention III downloads the product from DRM server, and uses the product.

Inventions III and II & II are related as combination and subcombination.

Inventions in this relationship are distinct if it can be shown that (1) the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed for patentability, and (2) that the subcombination has utility by itself or in other combinations (MPEP § 806.05(c)). In the instant case, the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because Invention III downloads the product from the DRM server and uses the product, whereas Inventions I & II does not user the product which is downloaded from the DRM server.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art as shown by their different classification, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and the search required for a Group is not required for other Groups, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

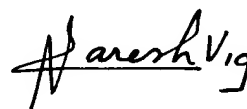
Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above and have acquired a separate status in the art because of their recognized divergent subject matter, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Naresh Vig whose telephone number is (571) 272-6810. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 7:30 - 6:00 (Wednesday off).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John Weiss can be reached on (571) 272-6812. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Naresh Vig  
Examiner  
Art Unit 3629

November 21, 2005